

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held May 15, 2007, the Board took the following action:

64-B

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"On March 6, 2007, the Board approved my motion instructing the Director of Public Health to prepare a report for the Board concerning the question of whether Hepatitis A vaccinations should be required for food service workers in restaurants, catering companies, and in wholesale markets. My motion was based on a recent case of Hepatitis A in a cook for a major catering company, which demonstrated the major impact that this food-borne disease can have on restaurants, catering companies and consumers. By the time that this food preparation worker had been diagnosed, thousands of attendees at various events had been put at some risk of acquiring Hepatitis A.

"The Director of Public Health submitted his report on May 3, 2007. County Counsel has found that it appears that the County is preempted from imposing a universal vaccination requirement for food service workers.

"The new State Retail Food Code does require mandatory reporting by food facilities to the local health officer of food service workers with certain symptoms of gastrointestinal illness, and Public Health has recommended that it will reinforce this new mandatory reporting requirement through communications, trainings and technical assistance consultations.

"However, the local health officer should have the power to require preventive Hepatitis A vaccinations for food service workers."

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64-B (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried (Supervisor Molina being absent), the Board approved the sponsorship of legislation which will amend the California Retail Food Code to permit the local health officer to require Hepatitis A vaccinations for food service workers in restaurants, catering companies, and in wholesale markets in order to protect the health of consumers.

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Copies distributed:

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